Amendment to the Specification

Amend the paragraph at page 39, line 31-page 40, line 14, as follows:

10 ml of heparinized blood are centrifuged (400 g; 10 min; RT). The supernatant plasma is removed. The pelleted cells are taken up in 12 ml of PBS. After density gradient centrifugation (Nycodenz 1.077; 800 g; 30 min, RT) the interphase cells (essentially mononuclear cells, MNC fraction for short) are removed and washed 2 x in 10 ml of PBS (1 mM EDTA) 9400 g; 10 min; 4° C). The MNC fraction is taken up in 10 ml of this cell mixture is removed as possible references (comparative fraction A'). The remaining 9 ml of cell mixture are passed via a column through a screen woven from polyester filaments with a 20μm mesh width (marketed by SEFAR AG, Rüschlikon, Switzerland), and the flow through from the screen is collected as possible reference (comparative fraction B'). The column is washed 5 x with 10 ml of PBS (1mM EDTA) each time. The screen is removed, inverted and incubated in a reaction vessel with 0.7 ml of Trizol ® (5 min; RT). The screen is placed above the Trizol ® solution in the reaction vessel and centrifuged (200 g; 30 s; RT). The dry screen is removed and the Trizol ® solution (cancer cell fraction C) passed on for further ~~RNS~~ RNA isolation.